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JANGCHENG CITADEL TAKEN BY JAPANESE IN NEW HONAN DRIVE

Chungking 20th, 22nd Divisions Make Vain Attempts to Pierce Japanese Flank

By T. ISHIZAKI and K. TANIGUCHI
Of the Military Press Corps

AT X X ON THE HONAN FRONT, May 6.—Advancing by furious assaults, the crack Japanese Army Units that occupied Hsuchang, pivotal point on the Peking-Hankow Railway, pierced a corner of the walled town of Jangcheng on the evening of May 3 and hoisted the Rising Sun flag at 1 a.m. on the next day.

Joined by the main body of the 20th Division under Commander Liu, who advanced northward from the Yehhsien sector, about 9,000 Chungking troops of the 22nd Division of the 12th army under Commander Chang made a vain attempt to break through the flank of the Japanese Forces, after desperate resistance at Jangcheng, the vital base in the enemy defense position in the first war zone.

Staging a frontal attack, the picked Japanese Units that captured Hsuchang, vigorously attacked the Chungking troops in collaboration with a powerful Japanese Unit that moved southward from the Sincheng area and another Japanese Unit advancing northward from the Linying sector, which cut off the retreat route of the enemy.

After terrific attacks, the Japanese Units broke through a corner of the walled town of Jangcheng at sunset of May 3, and succeeded in hoisting the Rising Sun flag over the town shortly after midnight.

Tank Units Smash Enemy

By T. OGAWA
Of the Military Press Corps

AT X X ON HONAN FRONT, May 6.—The Tank Units of the Japanese Forces, which rendered distinguished services in the occupation of Hsuchang, hotly pursued the 4,000 routed troops of the main body of the 13th army under Tang En-po's command, and the 29th army and caught up with them at Yingkiao, between Jangcheng and Hsuchang. Annihilative blows were dealt to the enemy.

Continuing their pursuit of the routed enemy, Japanese Tank Units trapped and wiped out the fleeing remnants at a point near Shihlipu, eight kilometers west of Kiahsien.

On May 2, the day following the fall of Hsuchang, the Japanese contacted about 2,000 enemy troops who were making a last stand in various villages around Yingkiao.

After encircling the enemy, the Japanese Tank Units in concert with the Army Wild Eagles, launched a general attack against the foe.

On May 3, the Japanese caught up with another force of Chungking troops, numbering about 2,000, at Shihlipu, eight kilometers west of Kiahsien. In the ensuing annihilative battle, the Japanese Units smashed the resistance of the enemy force which fled toward Kiahsien.

Nanyung Airfield Bombed

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE ON THE CONTINENT, May 7.—Japanese Air Units in a combined bomber-fighter formation launched a daylight attack on Nanyung airfield in northern Kwangtung Province yesterday.

Defying fierce enemy anti-aircraft fire, the Japanese Air Units blasted the enemy military establishments and anti-aircraft positions. All the Japanese planes returned safely.

Reaching Climax

By D. UNNO
Of the Military Press Corps

AT X X ON THE HONAN FRONT, May 6.—Annihilative battle in the Honan theater of war is now about to reach its climax.

Japanese Forces in skilfull operations, have cornered more than 70,000 troops of ten divisions, including the 29th, 13th and 85th Chungking armies under the command of General Tang En-po in the mountainous areas in and around Tengfeng, 70 kilometers southwest of Chengchow.

Completing a big encirclement ring extending 300 kilometers, the Japanese Units caught up with the enemy troops at every point since yesterday while the encirclement ring has been shortened inch by inch.

Within less than 20 days, the Tang En-po armies have either been completely wiped out or lost their fighting power, roaming about in the mountains on the western side of the Peking-Hankow Railway.

IMPERIAL RESCRIPT OBSERVANCE DAY

Imperial Rescript

We, by grace of heaven, Emperor of Japan, seated on the Throne of a line unbroken for ages eternal, enjoin upon ye, Our loyal and brave subjects:

We hereby declare war on the United States of America and the British Empire. The men and officers of Our Army and Navy shall do their utmost in prosecuting the war, Our public servants of various departments shall perform faithfully and diligently their appointed tasks, and all other subjects of Ours shall pursue their respective duties; the entire nation with a united will shall mobilize their total strength so that nothing will miscarry in the attainment of Our war aims.

To insure the stability of East Asia and to contribute to world peace is the far-sighted policy which was formulated by Our Great Illustrious Imperial Grandsire and Our Great Imperial Sire succeeding Him, and which We lay constantly to heart. To cultivate friendship among nations and to enjoy prosperity in common with all nations has always been the guiding principle of Our Empire's foreign policy. It has been truly unavoidable and far from Our wishes that Our Empire has now been brought to cross swords with America and Britain. More than four years have passed since China, failing to comprehend the true intentions of Our Empire, and recklessly courting trouble, disturbed the peace of East Asia and compelled Our Empire to take up arms. Although there has been re-established the National Government of China, with which Japan has effected neighborly intercourse and cooperation, the regime which has survived at Chungking, relying upon American and British protection, still continues its fratricidal opposition. Eager for the realization of their inordinate ambition to dominate the Orient, both America and Britain, giving support to the Chungking regime, have aggravated the disturbances in East Asia. Moreover, these two Powers, inducing other countries to follow suit, increased military preparations on all sides of Our Empire to challenge us. They have obstructed by every means our peaceful commerce, and finally resorted to a direct severance of economic relations, menacing gravely the existence of Our Empire. Patiently have We waited and long have We endured, in the hope that Our Government might retrieve the situation in peace. But our adversaries, showing not the least spirit of conciliation, have unduly delayed a settlement; and in the meantime, they have intensified the economic and political pressure to compel thereby Our Empire to submission. This trend of affairs would, if left unchecked, not only nullify Our Empire's efforts of many years for the sake of the stabilization of East Asia, but also endanger the very existence of Our nation. The situation being such as it is, Our Empire for its existence and self-defense has no other recourse but to appeal to arms and to crush every obstacle in its path.

The hallowed spirits of Our Imperial Ancestors guarding Us from above, We rely upon the loyalty and courage of Our subjects in Our confident expectation that the task bequeathed by Our forefathers will be carried forward, and that the sources of evil will be speedily eradicated and an enduring peace immutably established in East Asia, preserving thereby the glory of Our Empire.

(Imperial Sign Manual)
(Imperial Seal)

The 8th day of the 12th month
of the 16th year of Showa.

IMPHAL DEFENDERS GRIPPED BY UNREST

Begin Scorched-Earth Tactics —Shoot Citizens for No Reason Whatsoever

By T. OKUBO
Of the Military Press Corps

INDIAN FRONT, May 5.—Despite the desperate British efforts to stem anti-British manifestations, restlessness and confusion are sweeping over Assam Province as the Japanese-Indian Combined Forces continue their advance in Indian territory.

In this connection, the state of unrest in Imphal was disclosed by four Indian youths who arrived recently at the Japanese front-line after having stolen through the sentry-lines of the British-Indian forces in the doomed citadel.

They said that in Imphal all travelers were subjected to strict inspection, and that the British had set fire to storehouses, markets and public buildings in anticipation of the entry of the Japanese Forces.

Citizens of the city have been shot for no reason whatsoever, or they have been driven from the city by use of force, the Indian youths disclosed, adding that the Sultan of Manipur has been imprisoned.

Troubles Intensify

Domei

RANGOON, May 5.—Frequent uprisings of the Indians in eastern India and the fast degenerating fighting morale of the sepoys constitute problems of grave concern for the British authorities.

In this connection, the head of the Propaganda Department of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind stated in a press interview today as follows:

"While the world's attention is focused on India, particularly with the recent release of Mahatma Gandhi from Poona prison, the feeling of restlessness and agitation in Bengal Province is daily intensifying. At present railway workers there are taking part in a large-scale strike.

"The Governor of Bengal has admitted the unfavorable war situation in eastern India and disclosed that the foodstuff shortage would not be remedied for some time to come. With the entry of the anti-Axis armed forces into the province, the area has been placed under military administration, the Governor further revealed.

"Continuing, he complained over the fact that frequent clashes occur between the authorities and the people because transportation facilities in the province are being utilized for sending foodstuffs to the armed forces.

"The fighting morale of the Indian troops in the British-Indian army is low, and this has been proved by their unwillingness to enlist for military service and by the fact that five Indian members of the Indian National Defense Committee were dispatched recently to eastern India on a mission to bolster the fighting spirit of the sepoys."

F.I.C. UNITS SMASH CHUNGKING BANDITS

Chiang Regulars Who Aimed to Rob People of Border Area Are Easily Repulsed

Domei

HANOI, May 6.—Two companies of Chungking regulars which invaded French Indo-China to the north of Laokai at midnight of May 2 were repulsed by French Indo-China forces. In this connection, the French Indo-China authorities stated as follows:—

"The recent invasion of Chungking forces into this country was without any military or political purpose. It was a mere repetition of periodical invasions by bandit-like troops aimed at money-making.

"The inhabitants in different districts between Laokai and Kaoban along the boundary earn much money between April and July or August each year in opium and other lines of trade, and they spend the money thus earned in gambling.

"The Chungking troops invade this country periodically for such money. Sometimes, these Chungking troops are in civilian clothes and sometimes in military uniforms. They carry with them all sorts of arms, including howitzers.

"In most cases, they are not accompanied by able commanders and are usually repulsed without achieving their purposes. In the latest invasion, they were under a regular leader and commander. Nevertheless, they were easily repulsed by the French Indo-China forces. The repetition of such actions eloquently tells the absolute absence of military discipline among the Chungking troops.

GERMANS INSPIRED BY DEATH IN ACTION OF LATE ADM. KOGA

Doenitz Dispatches Telegram Of Condolence to Navy Minister Shimada

Domei

BERLIN, May 6.—Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz, Commander-in-Chief of the Reich Navy, dispatched the following telegram of condolence to Navy Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada, today, on the death of Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Combined Fleet:

"The Reich Navy, hoisting its emblem at half-mast, expresses condolence on the death of Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Combined Fleet and successor to the late Fleet-Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto. The valiant death of Fleet-Admiral Koga will spur us to redouble our efforts to fight on against innumerable odds till final victory is assured."

Expresses Regret

Domei

BERLIN, May 6.—Expressing the deep regret of the German people over the death of Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Combined Fleet, the Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, featured an article on its front page today under the heading, "Japanese Navy under Command of Late Commander-in-Chief of Combined Fleet," as follows:

"Japan has lost two men who have held the post of Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, as was the case with the late Fleet-Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, met his death while commanding operations from an airplane at the front.

"All the Germans would like to express their regrets, together with the Japanese Navy and the Japanese people, over the death of Fleet-Admiral Koga.

"The late Fleet-Admiral Koga assumed his post at a time when the war situation had reached a serious stage. He has successfully directed his forces in more than 10 aerial battles off the Gilbert and Bougainville islands, as well as in the defensive operations in the Marshalls area.

Koga, Toyoda in Reich Press

Domei

BERLIN, May 6.—The report from Tokyo announcing the death of Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet of the Japanese Navy as well as the photograph and other details of his successor, Admiral Soemu Toyoda, were front-paged in yesterday's German press.

Swedes Are Impressed

Domei

STOCKHOLM, May 6.—All papers here, yesterday, published the Imperial Headquarter's announcement of the heroic death of Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Combined Fleet.

The Swedish people are deeply impressed by the fact that the highest commanders of the Japanese Navy personally direct operations at the front.

THAI FORCES VICTORIOUS

Chungking Invaders in Shan Area Repulsed, Says Official Bulletin

Domei

BANGKOK, May 7.—The following war bulletin was issued by the Thai Army headquarters yesterday, regarding the battle on the Shan Yunnan border:

"About 200 Chungking troops invaded this country on April 24. The Thai National Army, however, immediately repulsed the enemy who retreated, leaving horses, and heavy and light machine-guns behind them."

Swedish Ship Damaged

Special

STOCKHOLM, May 5.—The Swedish freighter, Storfoes, belonging to the Udderholms Company returned to Goterborg Harbor badly damaged with the hull showing 75 machine-gun holes, according to a dispatch received here. Competent sources said that the ship was attacked by anti-Axis planes off Borkum Island on April 27 and added that three of the crew members were seriously wounded.

Heroic Remains Return to Capital

Borne by Commander Kazuo Toi, the remains of the late Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Combined Fleet, made a silent but triumphant return to Tokyo, Sunday forenoon. Shown above is the solemn scene at Tokyo Station where the highest dignitaries of the nation assembled to greet the homecoming of their great naval leader.

BRITISH DIPLOMACY IN NEED OF CHANGE

Business-Minded Men Said Necessary to Direct Policy Toward Soviet Union

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, May 5.—British and American businessmen and engineers have been noticeably ahead of the Foreign Office and the State Department in judging the strength of Soviet Russia—and the international implications of the Five-Year Plans, reports Negley Farson, correspondent of the Daily Mail.

Now, the truth, so often ignored by professional diplomats that friendly trade relations between countries is just as important as political relations, is at last taking on its proper and primary place, he says.

And what type of mind is going to direct Britain's future relations with the Soviet Union? Is it going to be a mind which made an economic mad-house out of Europe by the Treaty of Versailles—which ignored economics entirely?

It is becoming hackneyed to say that politics and economics are indivisible and that they must, in an enlightened world, always be handled simultaneously as one and the same thing. But the left-overs from the old diplomatic school are not going to be put on the side-lines as easily as that.

To announce that trained economists—it would be better if they were real businessmen—will now be appointed to "career" jobs in the British foreign service is one thing. But to make a position of genuine prestige equal to run with the aristocratic members of the British diplomatic corps is quite another.

Hull's Choice Lauded

In this connection, it is interesting to point out that Secretary of State Hull in his "modernizing" of the United States diplomatic service some time ago, appointed as Under Secretary of State, one of America's outstanding and very active industrialists, Edward Stettinius, ex-chairman of General Motors and chairman of the vast United States Steel Corporation. The move is so new and such a revolutionary advance in American attitude toward modern handling of foreign affairs that it can be called a step in advance of the times.

With Soviet Russia, a "business mind" such as possessed by Stettinius is imperative. Even more so is this true—a need for this type of mind—at this very moment in deciding what attitude Britain should adopt toward Soviet Russia instead of the old school diplomat's mind obsessed with such things as frontier disputes and hypothetical European federations. For it is obvious that what is needed in diplomatic thinking at this moment is a mind which is capable of thinking of something more than merely politics and administration. We need a mind which is capable of seeing Britain working together as a commercial partner for the reconstruction of Europe.

Baltic States Good Market

It is not generally known, but, on the eve of this war, Britain was selling more goods yearly to Norway, Sweden, Denmark—plus Finland—than she was to all India, the jewel of the Empire. On the other side of the Baltic, the British businessmen were developing a very valuable trade with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. These states are destined to become constituent republics of U.S.S.R. again. They will form a complement to the Scandinavian side of Britain's vitally valuable Baltic trade.

Now, instead of diplomats arguing whether Churchill and Roosevelt, in the Atlantic Charter, guaranteed the independence of the Baltic States—which they most definitely did not—an intelligent line for British diplomacy to take, it seems, would be to see that Britain continues to do business with these Baltic provinces as she did before the war. We have been asking ourselves, "Where is the common ground on which we can cooperate with Soviet Russia in postwar Europe?" The shore of the Baltic Sea is, at least, a good bridgehead.

48-Hour Ultimatum Was Handed Turkey In Pressure Move

Special

BERLIN, May 6.—A 48-hour ultimatum was presented to the Turkish Government by the United States and Britain in order to force Turkey to cease chrome deliveries to Germany, according to a Wilhelmstrasse spokesman. He added that during those 48 hours, the American, British and Soviet envoys "remained in hiding" so that they were out of reach of the Turkish Government. Nothing was revealed by the Wilhelmstrasse concerning the contents of the ultimatum but the impression prevailed that Berlin possessed precise information on the subject. The Wilhelmstrasse also revealed that it had no information as yet regarding Portuguese negotiations with Britain and the United States on the export of wolfram and that it is not known whether London and Washington presented their demand to the Lisbon Government in the form of an ultimatum as they did to Ankara.

ECONOMY BLOC PLANNED FOR WEST HEMISPHERE

Recommended in U.S. Talks to Fight Against British Preference System

Special

LISBON, May 6.—Formation of an economy and trade bloc embracing the entire American Hemisphere as a "counter-measure against the British preference system" was recommended by the Adviser of the Inter-American Finance and Economy Committee now meeting in Washington, according to a Washington report.

In a declaration issued today, the Committee expressly referred to the conference of the Dominion prime ministers now held in London from where the Committee expects a decision to be announced regarding the postwar trade policy of the British Empire.

The Committee also criticized the present commercial policy of the American Republics and recommended a trade policy on a larger scale and on a world-wide basis, or it would be difficult, it warned, for the American Republics to continue their trade policy.

KOGA IS EULOGIZED BY CHINESE PAPERS

Heart-Felt Condolences Expressed to Japan Over Loss Of Gallant Navy Leader

Domei

SHANGHAI, May 6.—The Chinese press today gave much prominence to the news of the death of Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet, and devoted editorials expressing heart-felt condolences and tribute.

Under photo-portraits of the late Fleet-Admiral and the Imperial Headquarters communique, Chinese papers gave stirring accounts of the fierce and grim war China is fighting shoulder-to-shoulder with Japan and the inspiring sense of duty the late Fleet-Admiral manifested in the conduct of the Combined Fleet operations. In their editorials they pledged unwavering cooperation with Japan to shatter Anglo-American power, never for a moment forgetting the sacrifice made by the late Fleet-Admiral.

The Hsin Chung Kuo Pao, in its editorial, said:

"The fact that already two commanders-in-chief of the Japanese Combined Fleet have died at their posts since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia bespeaks the fierceness and grimness of the war we are fighting. The late Fleet-Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto secured amazing results in the initial stages of the war while the late Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga dealt painful blows to the counter-attacking Americans. We cannot repress a feeling of deep sorrow over the loss of such gallant commanders and we express our heart-felt condolences to the people of Japan. We remain, however, firmly confident that the superb traditional fighting spirit of the Japanese Navy will triumph finally over our enemies."

GUATEMALA HITS BRITAIN

Envoy Demands British Honduras Be Returned After War

Special

LISBON, May 6.—Guatemalan Ambassador Sinfortso Aguilar, speaking from Mexico City, declared that his country would demand from Britain the return of British Honduras to Guatemala after the war.

The Ambassador stated that "because Britain has not fulfilled her obligation and also because in conformance with international jurisprudence the pact between Guatemala and England has expired, and his country has the right to demand the return of British Honduras.

Senator Tydings Reelected

Domei

GENEVA, May 6.—The result of the election for the United States Senate held in Baltimore, Maryland, caused a political sensation for Democratic Senator Millard R. Tydings of Maryland, who is known to be anti-Roosevelt, was reelected with twice as many votes against the pro-Roosevelt candidate, Willis Jones, who favored a fourth term for Roosevelt.

LATE NAVAL LEADER RETURNS TO CAPITAL IN SOLEMN TRIUMPH

Reach Tokyo at 11:13 A.M. Sunday—Remains Lying in State at Azabu Residence

Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, the late Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet, made a silent "triumphal return" to the capital Sunday morning. Amid a deep hush, the remains of the great Navy leader arrived at Tokyo Station on board a special electric train at 11:13 a.m.

On the platform were assembled Vice-Admiral Toshihisa Nakamura, an aide-de-camp graciously dispatched by His Majesty the Emperor, messengers of His Imperial Highness Prince Chichibu and other Princes of the Blood, Navy Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada, Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo, Fleet-Admiral Osami Nagano, Field Marshal Gen Sugiyama, Supreme War Councillors, directors of the Navy Ministry Bureaus and Departments, and other high Navy and Army officers, the 19-year old Miss Toshiko Koga, second daughter of the late Fleet-Admiral, Toyoichi Koga, 52, managing director of the Tokyo Wireless Company, younger brother of the late Fleet-Admiral, Vice-Admiral Paul Wenneker, naval attache to the German Embassy, and other Embassy and Legation attaches representing their respective countries.

The four-car electric train pulled into the station at 11:13 a.m. From the second carriage emerged Commander Kazuo Toi reverently bearing the white box containing the remains, followed by Mrs. Yaeko Koga, the widow, in mourning, Vice-Admiral Shigeru Kikuno, representative of the late Fleet-Admiral's classmates at the Naval Academy, Commander Fukuchi, holding before him the Fleet-Admiral's Sword granted by His Imperial Majesty to the deceased and officers carrying the four decorations bespeaking the brilliant career of the late Fleet-Admiral.

The remains were then placed in a room in the station compound reserved for the bearers. Captain Ichiro Yokoyama, senior adjutant at the Navy Ministry, led the way for the motor-car procession after Mrs. Koga had received warm greetings from Prime Minister Tojo. The procession, including the open car bearing the remains, turned the corner at Sakuradamon at 11:30 a.m. and then went past the Navy Ministry. All along the streets through which it passed, huge crowds gathered to obtain the last earthly glimpse of the late Fleet-Admiral. Not a sound was to be heard except the purr of the motor-car engines. White gloves of officers moved like foam in a salute. The procession going past Toranomon, Tameike, Roppongi and Kasumi-cho stopped before the Koga residence at No. 79, Kogai-cho, Azabu, at 11:45 a.m., and there solemn rites were held before the altar on which the remains had been placed to lie in state.

SOVIETS INTENSIFYING PROPAGANDA IN AMERICA

Moscow Proposes to Decorate Movie Producers, Actors, Claims U.S. Writer

Special

LISBON, May 6.—Webb Waldron, anti-Soviet writer of the Washington Times-Herald, asserted that the Soviet Union has inaugurated a wide propaganda campaign directed at the United States, according to a New York report.

He alleged that the U.S. State Department is at present considering the Soviet proposal for the conferring of decorations on various American movie producers and actors, but "this propaganda" is insignificant compared with Moscow's offer to supply articles gratis to various small publications and trade union newspapers as well as to obscure trade journals in the United States.

As an example, Waldron cites the Midwest Wool Growers' News which received a radiogram from Moscow last March to the effect that "the Labor Press recently organized in Moscow can send you free articles dealing with the war effort of the Soviet collective farmers as well as other developments in the Soviet Union. Cable whether the proposal is acceptable and your suggestion regarding the topics. Address Labor Press, Moscow." Waldron alleged that this was encroachment of the Soviets into the United States.

Press Comments

May 7, 1944

TIME OF ANTI-AXIS LANDING REMAINS A RIDDLE

ASAHI.—One thing very absurd and ridiculous is the circulation of opinions lately that the anti-Axis forces will land on the Continent sometime in May. Some people even foretell the exact day of the landing of the anti-Axis armies. Some time ago, one of them said that the event in question would take place on May 2 which, however, passed in peace. Now, there are a few who say that the anti-Axis forces will attempt their landing on May 10. But, should the event really take place on that day, it could be nothing more than a chance hit.

War is essentially full of many factors which cannot be foreseen or conjectured in any way. During a war, things quite unexpected may happen at any moment. Here lies the reason why the leaders of the belligerent forces always exercise painstaking efforts, groping in the dark for the possible movements of the enemy forces. Therefore, it goes without saying that a belligerent will keep in absolute secrecy all details of any decisive action which is to be taken. Besides, intense efforts will be made to learn every movement of the enemy strength. This is why Marshal Ferdinand Foch of France who accomplished brilliant successes in the first Great War always emphasized the necessity of obtaining reliable information of the enemy's movements up to the moment when the armed clash takes place. Therefore, nobody but the highest commander of the anti-Axis forces knows the exact time when the landing on the Continent is to be carried out. We may even say that the highest commander himself cannot know the exact time until he makes his final decision on the important matter in question. The time for a battle is a military secret. Therefore, any opinions of outsiders concerning the forthcoming action in Europe can be of no value. General Dwight Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis forces in Europe, was right when he said that the time for the landing of his troops on the Continent would be decided in consideration of the military circumstances in view.

It is agreed among most people that the anti-Axis nations must use 1,000,000 troops in order to carry out their operation, and that they would land their troops at different places at once in order to distract the attention of the German forces. A conjecture like this, being based on common sense, deserves credence in a measure. The conjecture that the landing of the anti-Axis forces will take place sometime in May, however, is void of any value. We cannot but suspect clumsy intrigue and nerve warfare. Dr. Joseph Goebbels, Minister for National Enlightenment and Propaganda of Germany, has rightly pointed out that the actions of the enemy forces are in themselves nothing more than nerve warfare.

As Dr. Goebbels has emphasized, "Germany is prepared to repulse the enemy from any place where he may land with a view to invading the Continent." Germany is in a position "to play its trump card" for use at the last moment. This is why the German people are looking forward to the development of the decisive battle on the Atlantic coast. The German forces, being prepared for anything that may happen, are absolutely indifferent to the wild rumors concerning the time for the landing of the anti-Axis forces on the Continent.

BATTLE OF THE CORAL SEA AND NIMITZ'S COUNTER-OFFENSIVE

TOKYO SHIMBUN—Today two years ago, saw the start of a major naval battle between the Imperial Japanese Navy and the Anglo-American navy which was fought for two days beginning from May 7 in the Coral Sea. The battle ended in a decisive victory for the Imperial Navy, which sank one enemy battleship, two aircraft carriers, one large-sized cruiser and one destroyer besides inflicting heavy damage to enemy battleships, two large-sized cruisers and one oil tanker in addition to destroying 98 enemy planes in the aerial combat fought during this battle. The enemy fleet fought well too for we lost one small-sized aircraft carrier and 31 planes. The difference in the efficiency of the two opposing naval forces was brought to light by the result of this engagement.

"We were unable to forestall the enemy at first. The difference in efficiency, however, enabled us to beat the enemy after a fierce engagement," reads a passage of the letter written by the late Fleet-Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, who was the Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet. It gives us a brief but a clear knowledge of the manner in which the Battle of the Coral Sea was fought on May 7 and 8 two years ago.

Two years have passed since but no major naval engagement has taken place in any part of the Pacific. The United States is making much fuss about the Nimitz counter-offensive which, however, is nothing but a minor propaganda. The New York Times says that Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, has now under his command the greatest naval strength ever known in the history of America. But, with such a tremendous naval strength in his hands, Nimitz can take no larger action than a guerilla warfare. In this respect, however, Nimitz is clever enough not to risk his warships because he knows something of the high efficiency of the Imperial Japanese Navy.

American papers and periodicals are anxious to find out the real situation of the war in the Pacific. Some of them declare that the Japanese Navy, in shunning the challenge by the United States navy, must be harboring some strategic plan of its own; another states that being left without any knowledge of the whereabouts of the Japanese Fleet, "we cannot help growing nervous, and therefore, the United States fleet must contrive to fight a decisive battle with the Japanese Fleet disregarding any possible loss on our part." Still another asserts that the Japanese Fleet seems to be waiting for the best chance to deal an annihilative blow to the American navy. Thus, all newspapers and periodicals in the United States are restless before the silent menace of the Japanese Fleet. The American navy knows that its command of the sea will be smashed up the moment its fleet enters the sea area within the reach of Japanese planes from their bases on land and this is why Nimitz cannot take any definite action for it means suicide to the American fleet.

Nevertheless, the United States navy is destined to such suicidal actions due to the political intrigue of President Franklin Roosevelt who, having been told by Prime Minister Winston Churchill that the latter regarded himself as an adjutant of the U.S. President, is now under the illusion that he has been appointed "President of all nations."

Also, Roosevelt is now planning to secure in the forthcoming presidential election the right to remain in his post for life. As a means to realize his political ambition, Roosevelt is demanding his navy to do something that will earmark his political popularity in the country. Thus, due to Churchill's intrigue to put off the downfall of Britain at the sacrifice of the American navy and because of the political ambition of Roosevelt who knows no bounds, the United States fleet is now being pressed forward to its tragical end.

The powerful Japanese Navy and the Pacific with the deepest seas in the world are quite enough to dispose of all the naval strength that the United States may send to the Western Pacific. The brilliant record scored by us in the Battle of the Coral Sea is an eloquent proof of the ability of the Japanese Fleet to destroy the largest enemy fleet that may appear before it.

AIR-RAID DISPERSION PLANS ARE PUSHED IN CHUNGKING

160,000 People to Be Moved—Stores in Danger Zones to Be Closed

Domei

CANTON, May 5.—Dispersion of Chungking citizens was started on April 17 in view of the pending danger of Japanese air raids.

A recent issue of the Chengchi Jih Pao reports that the period from May 3 to 9 has been designated as air-raid danger week. According to the paper, Chungking has been divided into 12 districts and private and public air raid shelters have been built to take care of half the population. The remainder of the people will be dispersed to places outside the city.

Dispersion plans for this year involve the removal of 160,000 people from Chungking. Also, all stores in specified districts will be closed and the poorer classes in these areas will be sent to safety zones.

In order to facilitate the dispersion plans, 10 so-called "Dispersion Encouragement Corps" have been formed.

Rome Bombed by Yanks

Special

BERLIN, May 5.—The first major anti-Axis air raid on Rome after Eire Prime Minister Eamon de Valera's appeal to belligerents to spare the Eternal City and after German assurances that Rome had been demilitarized was carried out today by American bombers which attacked the residential quarters east of the city.

POLES IN AMERICA SCORED BY PRESS

Washington Post Says They Are Using Boundary Issue To Influence Election

Special

LISBON, May 6.—The American newspaper, Washington Post, today, denounced the efforts of the people of Polish descent and others in the United States to utilize the European boundary questions to influence the presidential election as "dangerously un-American," according to a New York report.

Referring to the forthcoming meeting of reactionary "Americans of Polish descent" in Buffalo, New York, on May 28, the Washington Post said: "The so-called Polish-American Congress is scheduled to be held in Buffalo at the end of this month. Its purpose, apparently, is to mobilize American citizens of Polish ancestry regarding the European boundary dispute.

"Purpose of this meeting is dangerously un-American because it would lead the Americans of Polish descent to identify themselves with the nationality which they voluntarily renounced when they assumed obligations and received privileges of American citizenship."

The Washington Post also reiterated former President Theodore Roosevelt's warning against Americans of foreign origin retaining a dominant interest in European affairs instead of American affairs. The newspaper further stated that leaders, especially, should remember the dangers involved in dealing with problems of nationalities.

Pointing out that 10 congressmen of Polish descent several months ago greeted the Polish national alliance convention in Boston and promised that they will "always remain alert over the interests of the country of our fathers—Poland," the Washington Post said, "doubtlessly such a spirit inspired Representative John Lesinski, Democrat from Michigan, to denounce in his speech in the House of Representatives on Tuesday, the visit of Father Stanislav Orelmanski to the Soviet Union." The newspaper further declared that Lesinski was "utilizing the forum in the United States Congress to speak for a group of Poles instead of for the Americans who elected him."

The World Telegram also criticizes, although somewhat less sharply, certain activities of some Polish-American groups. It declared that American citizens have the right to express opinions regarding various European issues, nevertheless, pressure from various groups of American citizens of European origin sometimes reaches irresponsible and dangerous proportions, resulting in "costly consequences for minority groups."

Specifically referring to the Polish question, the World Telegram asserted that it is clear that the American public is generally sympathetic toward Poland and that the State Department is attempting to persuade the Soviet Union and Britain to adhere to the Atlantic Charter, but it is also clear that the majority of Americans are not in favor of breaking the wartime alliance with Russia and Britain over the Polish issue, nor do they want to fight Russia for this purpose.

The World Telegram continued that it is "therefore naive nonsense, or worse, to speak of Washington 'forcing' the Soviet Government or the Polish Government." Referring to the reactionary Polish agitation regarding Orelmanski, on the one hand, and to Congressman Celler's demand for removal of anti-semitic Polish army officers, on the other, the paper said that "obviously the disciplining of pro-Russian priests does not constitute the proper business of the State Department." It added that it is also "obvious that we cannot run the Polish Army regardless of how much we deplore its mistakes. We must cooperate with our allies regardless of their faults." The Americans of European descent must exercise "decent self-restraint" in the interest of national unity and victory, the paper declared.

38 Eire Firms 'Black-Listed'

Special

LISBON, May 6.—Thirty-eight Eire firms were entered in the supplement of the "black list" which the U.S. State Department published on Saturday evening, according to a Washington report. This was the first time that any Eire firm was placed on the United States "black list."

F.I.C. Plans Brides' School

Domei

HANOI, May 5.—The Educational Department of the French Indo-China Government-General has opened a Brides' Preparatory School at Dalat, where girls between the ages of 18 and 20 will receive practical education in housekeeping, child raising and other domestic sciences.

Gandhi's Release Is Victory for Patriot And Weakness of British, Says N.Y. Paper

Special

LISBON, May 6.—The New York World Telegram declared in its editorial today that the release of Mahatma Gandhi is a good sign of the stupidity of British intelligence as well as a victory for Gandhi, a New York dispatch disclosed.

The paper stated that this action showed the weakness of the British and called the whole episode a "battle for face rather than for realities." It also said that the unconditional release of the Indian leader was merely a supreme gesture of British confidence in victory. It was foolish to imprison Gandhi, the paper further declared, because apart from justice he was a stronger force for independence in jail than out, and now his influence has become more powerful than ever. Moreover, the paper stated, India's decision to free itself of the British rule is deeper and wider than ever.

The World Telegram further said that although ill health was given as the reason for Gandhi's release, it was the paper's guess, however, that there is added reason. That reason, it stated, was the advance of Japanese Forces into India which is being made much of in India. The unconditional release of Gandhi at this moment is therefore a supreme gesture of the British confidence in victory. The paper concluded that it would like to think that the liberation of the nationalist leader will open the way to the settlement of the British-Indian problem—at least it is better than the Cripps' plan which promised so much and achieved so little.

Responsibility Escaped

Domei

LISBON, May 6.—Commenting on the "unconditional" release of Mahatma Gandhi which was announced by the Indian Government this morning, Mrs. Henry Luce, member of the U.S. House of Representatives and wife of the American magazine king, opined that the British measure was prompted either by the British desire to avoid being held responsible for Gandhi's death while imprisoned, or the Indian Government's move to appease the powerful nationalist movement within the country, a Washington dispatch disclosed.

Meanwhile, the move is observed here as nothing but a calculated action by the British authorities to evade any responsibility for Gandhi's health in view of the inability of the Indian Government under the present circumstances to modify its pressure on the National Congress.

It is learned that Gandhi's failure to show any signs of improvement since his malaria attack has created extreme concern among the 300,000,000 Indians, but it is believed that Gandhi may yet exert his peculiarly strong spiritual powers and effect a miraculous recovery.

U.S. HOME FRONTERS FAIL TO COOPERATE

War Veterans, Scribes Ired at Lack of Unity of Populace To Aid War Effort

American wounded soldiers, journalists, officers and officials, who are returning from the various war fronts every week, are burning with rage over the lack of cooperation and the steadily widening chasm existing between the war and home fronts, declares Ernest K. Lindley in the News Week, according to a special Berlin dispatch to the Nippon Times yesterday.

The reaction of these men, Lindley says is displayed in three ways: (1) they are pleased to return home; (2) they display annoyance and disgust. This is most noticeable with journalists, soldiers and officials, who draw comparison between the standard of the war fronts and that of the home front; and (3) they feel benevolent contempt.

Roosevelt's reaction after his return from Teheran belonged to the third category. He seemed confident and well rested, and displayed neither ill-humored annoyance, nor pomposity. His criticism of Congress for the drafting of family fathers was almost parental. He preferred to give the child a lump of sugar instead of trying to make it see the bitter facts of life.

Noticeable in Capitol

Week after week the chasm between the war fronts and the home front is widening. This breach can be noticed most in Washington.

"This rather disgraceful development is partly due to the narrowly confined sphere of interests in which many of us are thinking," Lindley continues. "Partly it is also attributable to over-optimism regarding the rapidity and cost of victory. However, neither this, nor other explanations can justify the attitude of the various groups of financially interested people or that of Congress. And despite this, only a few critical voices were raised."

The rift between the war fronts and the home front may assume great political importance. The least to be said is that it is quite possible that those politicians who have hitched their future to the money-grabbing clan of capitalists may have backed the wrong horse.

Meanwhile, the American journalist, Sherry Mangan, in the American illustrated monthly, Fortune, declares that President Franklin Roosevelt step by step had proceeded from isolationism to internationalism and finally had dragged the American people by its coat-tails into the war, and the Lisbon correspondent of the Berliner Boersenzeitung described in an editorial of how Roosevelt pulled all registers of agitation to make the war palatable to his people.

Despite this, the American people, apart from a brief period after Pearl Harbor, had never felt directly threatened, it reveals. Since after the war entry of the United States an apparent economic boom was stated. The American people were not immediately placed before the decision of supporting the war of its President with corresponding sacrifices, or to rise in opposition against it.

But now it grows into opposition. In the first place the American labor class develops a growing feeling of belonging together with their own political tendencies, and today already a solid front opposes the War Labor Office that carries out the social policy of the President.

The broad masses of labor, without being yet conscious of their might down to its last consequences, demand for a start their share in the material gains of this war. The frequent coal and iron ore miners' strikes constituted in this respect a milestone of the new political development. With these strikes, the truce between the "haves" and "have-nots" in the United States was buried.

SOVIETS REPELLED AT SERETH BATTLE

Fail to Reach Objective and Are Pushed Further North by Reich, Rumanian Troops

Special

BERLIN, May 5.—Heavy fighting east of Sereth by which the Soviets have been trying for three days already to break through along the river has not abated today, Lieutenant-Colonel Alfred von Olberg, retired, and Transocean military correspondent reported today.

"Again it has led to grave losses in Soviet man-power and the crippling of a large percentage of attacking tanks," he said. "Once more the German and Rumanian formations drove the enemy back farther to the north in furious counter-attacks."

The furiousness with which the Soviet attacks are being repeated shows the great strategic importance attached by the Soviet command to this operation, he pointed out.

He assumed that the Soviet command nevertheless wants to straighten out the front there in order to secure a good jumping board for a thrust into the interior of Rumania.

"It appears that if the plan to destroy the German southern forces after a frontal attack across the Dniester and the attack from the flank in the direction of Kishinev fails, the enemy's fundamental idea is to shift the 3rd Ukranian army from the Dniester across Pruth to Sereth," he added.

Meanwhile, in spite of the huge losses suffered by the Soviet attempts at breaking through in the fighting around Sereth, the German High Command is carefully watching enemy preparations for fresh attacks in the southern sector further to the north of the present battle area, according to Martin Hallensleben, military correspondent.

He stated that German quarters are expecting that fresh masses of Soviet troops will begin to attack the German defense front and will thus start the great spring offensive.

Intensified Soviet attacks made southwest of Kovel must doubtless be regarded as indications in spite of the fact that these movements still may be classified as strong preliminary attacks, the correspondent declared.

On the whole, the situation along the entire Eastern Front is unchanged. Soviet counter-attacks against the German and Hungarian troops between the Carpathians and the upper reaches of the Dniester and Soviet attacks southeast of Kovel are merely local operations for the purpose of regaining recently lost terrain, military quarters stated.

MENGCHIANG'S RISE HERALDED IN E. ASIA

Japanese Responsible for Growth; Prince Teh Is Descendant of Genghis Khan

There is a country within Greater East Asia and situated not very far from the Yellow Sea, which, despite these facts, is scarcely known to the people of China—to say nothing of foreign nations. That country, called Mengchiang, is about 200,000 square miles in size and has a population of roughly six million inhabitants; it occupies an important political position as a buffer between North China and Soviet-controlled Outer Mongolia; it has considerable, though scarcely developed, economic resources; and it has gained in commercial importance. Nonetheless, what the average Chinese knows about that northern country, inhabited by Mongols and Chinese, is amazingly little, and it may well happen that even educated people do not know much more than the fact that Genghis Khan, the great conqueror, originated in that Mongolian land, says the Time Weekly of Shanghai.

In fact the name Mengchiang means "land along the Mongol border" and this term is somewhat misleading. For the country is not a borderland. Geographically as well as ethnologically and also from a historical point of view, it is Mongolian soil, and when in 1939 the present State was organized and called "Mongolian Federated Autonomous Government," Prince Teh, a real Mongolian, was appointed President. Prince Teh, leader of the "Young Mongol Movement" is a living link with mighty past of the Mongols. He can prove to be a lineal descendant of Genghis Khan and thus is the bearer not only of an old name but also of an old tradition. However, matters have changed since the days of the great conquerors: Genghis Khan, in the 13th century, led his Mongol hordes to conquer western lands, and two generations later his grandson Kublai Khan breached the Great Wall to conquer China, where he founded the city of Peking. Prince Teh, on the other hand, is building up his ancestors' country both politically and economically.

Mengchiang's recent history is closely connected with Japan's activities on the continent. In 1921, ten years after the establishment of the Chinese Republic, the northern Mongols of Outer Mongolia set up an Outer Mongolian People's Republic of pro-communistic type and under Soviet auspices, with Urga—then renamed Ulan Bator—made capital.

Japanese Occupy Country

Again ten years later, with the occupation of Manchoukuo by Japanese troops, the land of the Hsingan Mongols of northeast Manchuria was incorporated in the new State of Manchoukuo, and in July 1937, shortly after the outbreak of the China Affair, Japanese troops swept into Inner Mongolia and in rapid succession occupied the four most important cities of the country. With the assistance of the most influential political leaders, the Japanese in November 1937, established the Federated Council of Mengchiang which name was changed in September 1939 simultaneously with a full-scale political reorganization of the country into Federal Autonomous Government of Mongolia.

For centuries the country that is now called Mengchiang has been a great transit area of trade. Caravans carried in the furs, wool and opium that made up the chief part of the trade of North China with Mongolia, Turkestan and Tibet, and across the desert the same camels took to the peoples of Central Asia tea from China, piece-goods from the coast, petroleum and dozens of other articles imported from abroad. For the most part it was a kind of barter trade and up to the beginning of the current century the somewhat primitive commercial forms did not change.

One of the most important bases of commerce is the extensive coal fields of Tatung, while the iron deposits of Chahar are the richest known iron ore field in all the territories where the Chinese language dominates. Of course, much has still to be done until those riches can be used for the benefit of that new-old country but with trained Japanese engineers now being at work there, it is hoped that Mengchiang's enormous subterranean wealth will be utilized.

On the other hand, the struggle in China and all the economic restrictions that logically are connected with military operations, brought about a strong commercial decline. Trade with Central China went down. The trade balance became unfavorable. Agriculture lost much of its former importance. A considerable portion of the fields that had been under agricultural cultivation were allowed to revert to pasture land. Only step by step could the Japanese rebuild the economic life, and the first step, of course, was the creation of sound financial foundations. The Mengchiang yuan was declared at par with the Japanese yen and the Manchoukuo yuan.

Nevertheless, even in 1940 there was still a heavy import excess, the main reason being that for building up the country, imports of machinery, chemical and technical goods, mostly from Japan, were absolutely necessary, while at the same time crop failures in 1939 had necessitated heavy foodstuff imports during the first half of 1940. Slowly the situation has improved. New trade agreements were signed between Mengchiang and Manchoukuo as well as Japan and North China, and in spite of hundreds of difficulties trade and commerce were rebuilt.

Despite all that the Japanese have done to boast the reconstruction of that backward land, their economists have never overlooked the tremendous handicaps they met with there. At first it was believed that Mengchiang's economic policy could be based on a self-sufficiency program, but when floods and droughts, decreasing exports and swelling imports worsened the general economic situation, it became obvious that only by coordinating the country's economic life with that of the whole Greater East Asia could it be hoped to obtain satisfactory results.

Cooperation With Japan

That conviction resulted in new measures taken by Japanese financial experts. It appeared that, at any rate for several years, Mengchiang would depend upon Japan for the capital needed in future industrial development and therefore, new agreements were made between the Bank of Japan and the Mengchiang authorities.

All plans of such nature, of course, cannot be based on war economics but must take into consideration not only the future industrial development of the country but also the return to normal of the commercial life. In other words, one must consider what Mengchiang would be able to buy and sell not under prevailing conditions but in normal times, and there seems to be no doubt that in this respect the prospects are quite favorable. When the carvan trade with Central Asia can be rebuilt and even developed, when agriculture regains its previous importance, and when imports of all kinds of foreign goods help to reconstruct the industrial production, Mengchiang will gain more than ever before.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

May 6

At Sebastopol, the Soviets reopened their attacks with strong forces supported by artillery and planes, but they were repulsed in counter-attacks by our army and navy as well as by Rumanian troops. Our fighters and battleplanes effectively joining in the ground-fighting shot down 30 Soviet aircraft and all our planes returned safely.

East of Sereth, several major Soviet attacks again collapsed yesterday. Here too, the Luftwaffe with telling effect supported our defense by destroying 31 tanks as well as numerous enemy guns and supply vehicles.

Raids on the Soviet railway traffic were successfully continued day and night while our planes last night bombed the railway station of Kiev—Darnitsa causing heavy destructions to railway installations.

Lively assault activity on both sides is reported from the Nettuno beachhead and from the Italian Southern Front and several enemy strongholds were blown up together with their occupants.

In Eastern Bosnia, our troops smashed five large Communist partisan bands. At the same time, Reich and Bulgarian troops supported by units of the Serbian Volunteer Corps and National Serbian Formations foiled an attempt made by Communist bands at gaining a foothold in Serbia.

American bombers yesterday attacked Ploesti and Turnu-Severin causing damage to buildings and casualties among the population. German and Rumanian air defenses shot down 47 of the attacking planes, most of them four-engined bombers.

ROOSEVELT ASKING BIG APPROPRIATION

Submits to Congress Request For More Funds to Execute Lend-Lease Program

Special

LISBON, May 6.—President Roosevelt submitted to Congress today a request for an appropriation of additional funds of $3,450,570,000 to carry out the Lend-Lease program during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1945. At the same time Congress was also requested to appropriate $30,881,000 for the administrative expenses of the Foreign Economic Administration for the same period, according to a Washington report.

The appropriation request for Lend-Lease is for industrial products required for the production of planes, tanks, guns and other war supplies in anti-Axis countries as well as for food and other agricultural products needed to maintain the rations of the soldiers and war workers.

Congress is requested also to make available until June 30, 1945 any unexpended balance of previous appropriations to the President for Lend-Lease purposes. The total amount of such funds available for the Lend-Lease program under this request during the fiscal year 1945 is estimated at $7,188,893,000.

Included also in the request for Lend-Lease Funds is $4,209,000 for expenses of the Department of Treasury Procurement Division and the Department of Agriculture for the procurement of Lend-Lease supplies and services.

Another proposed provision authorizes the use for the procurement of Lend-Lease agricultural and industrial products of $88,299,000 received as a result of operations under the Lend-Lease Act—this sum consists primarily of money received from foreign Governments in payment for aid furnished under the Lend-Lease Act and money for commodities which have been furnished by foreign Governments under reverse Lend-Lease.

The goal of $70,881,000 sought for the Foreign Economic Administration is to cover all expenses necessary to carry out its functions and activities, which include administration and supervision of the Lend-Lease program, procurement abroad of strategic and critical materials and foodstuffs required for the war efforts and other economic warfare programs as well as activities, preclusive purchases to keep materials out of the hands of the enemy and control over exports.

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CHOSEN CONDITIONS REPORTED BY KOISO

Governor - General Reviews Situation Before Throne; Says Food Output Good

General Kuniaki Koiso, Governor-General of Chosen, who returned to Japan recently reported on the general conditions in Chosen, including foodstuff production to His Majesty the Emperor on Friday morning.

In the afternoon at the press interview held at the Tokyo branch of the Government-General of Chosen, General Koiso commented on the speedy diffusion of the Japanese spirit among the Chosenese with the adoption of the conscription law in that country. As to foodstuff production and development of natural resources, Chosen is exerting its utmost, he further stated.

"The adoption of the conscription law has produced joy and gratitude among the 25,000,000 Chosenese," he declared. "Encouraged by the remarkable results in enlightening the youths on current world affairs, Chosenese parents are now willingly sending their sons to training camps.

"A special collective training for those who had elementary education will also be conducted in the near future for the purpose of qualifying them to become competent soldiers. Of the graduates of the training institute for volunteer soldiers who are now in actual service, two are sub-lieutenants and more than 100 are non-commissioned officers while 60 or 70 died in action."

"As to foodstuff production," he continued, "a rosy future lies ahead for Chosen. Whereas 23,350,000 koku of rice and 16,000,000 koku of wheat and other cereals had been produced in normal years, the production in 1942 was reduced to 15,700,000 koku of rice and 13,000,000 koku of wheat and other cereals were produced. As 35,000,000 koku of rice and other cereals are absolutely necessary for consumption within the peninsula, various measures for increased production have been contrived, while the deficiency has been met with imported foodstuffs.

"In view of the imminence of increased foodstuff production, the goal for this year's output has been set at 26,000,000 koku for rice and 20,000,000 for other cereals and every available effort is being exerted to attain the goal."

COOPERATE WITH JAPANESE

Chinese Youth Bodies Aid in Labor Works in Honan Area

Domei

KAIFENG, May 5.—Utmost cooperation is being given to the Japanese Forces in the Honan area by local Chinese youth organizations which are taking an active part in labor service.

Some 80 youths of the Kaifeng Police Training Institute and more than 200 members of the Kaifeng Hsinmin Young Mens' Organization lent their services for a six-day period beginning April 28. Also about 10 trainees at the Agricultural Training Institute have been busily engaged since the beginning of this month in assisting Japanese Units.

Chen Reviews Youth Corps

Domei

NANKING, May 5.—Climaxing the youth rally, which is being held here participated in by representatives of Youth Corps from different countries of Greater East Asia, a general inspection of the young men totaling 10,000 was staged here today when they marched in a picturesque march-past before Chen Kung-po, Mayor of Shanghai

Mobilizing More Farmers

Domei

HSINKING, May 5.—The Manchoukuo Development Bureau has decided to adopt a composite mobilization plan to effect speedy increase of production on 50,000 chobu of newly developed land for this year with the work to be undertaken by Manchoukuo and Chosenese farmers as well as the Labor Service Corps.

Chinese Labor Corps Formed

Domei

DAVAO, May 5.—Chinese residents here have organized eight Labor Service Corps to strengthen their cooperative services for the successful consummation of the current war with inaugural ceremonies held on April 29.

Djakarta Streets Renamed

Domei

DJAKARTA, May 5.—The Djakarta City Commission announced on April 29 new nomenclatures for Djakarta streets bearing enemy names. A total of 57 streets have been renamed.

Humane Aspects of Late Naval Leader Told by Military Press Corp Member

By S. IIJIMA
Of the Military Press Corps

Severity moderated with leniency seems to me to have been the outstanding characteristic of the late Fleet-Admiral Mineichi Koga, Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet, with whom I had occasion to come into brief contact in the front line area during the early part of February. I could hardly believe the news of the death of the gallant naval leader, whose cheerful countenance I had beheld so short while ago.

Photographing was my assignment at the XX front line base. Each time a hospital ship made port laden with the wounded, the late Admiral would instantly make his round of calls, speaking a word of consolation to each of the wounded warriors. He would sympathetically inquire about their conditions and then exhort them to be of service again to the nation when their wounds had healed.

Returning from the hospital ship, I was permitted to board the same launch as the Admiral. Out of deference, I stayed outside the cabin.

"You will be wet from the sprays out there. Come in." So saying, the Admiral invited me to come inside the cabin. Deeply moved by these kindly words, I entered the cabin and took a seat opposite the Admiral.

His benign face turned toward me, the Admiral said, "I am always grateful for the activities of the Military Press Corps members, who are fulfilling their duties at the risk of their very lives. It is a vital task that you shoulder in linking the front lines with the home front, and and I ask that you tackle your work with greater vigor than ever."

Admiral Koga's words sank deep into my heart and I vowed to myself that I would strive harder than ever in my field of service to the nation. Gazing at the Admiral's gentle and kindly countenance, it did not seem possible that this was the heroic figure of the Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Combined Fleet, on whose shoulders rested the hope of the Japanese Navy.

The loss of such a distinguished naval leader is certainly a grievous blow, but the traditions of the Japanese Navy will be gloriously carried on by Admiral Soemu Toyoda, the late Admiral's successor.

P.I. ALTERS CHARTER OF KALIBAPI SETUP

Revised Into Non-Partisan Political Body to Unify People Under Republic

Domei

MANILA, May 5.—The Board of Information this morning announced that President Jose P. Laurel has revised the charter of the Kalibapi, converting it from a Non-Political Service Association into a Non-Partisan Political Organization in order to make the organization a powerful instrumentality auxiliary to the Republic of the Philippines.

The President defined the following three-fold objective of the reorganized Kalibapi:

1. To uphold, maintain, defend and protect the Republic of the Philippines at all times.
2. To effectively support policies and help realize the ideals of the Government by securing the unification of the Filipino people by instilling in them the conviction that the permanent security, well-being and happiness of Filipinos depend on the perpetuation of independence and preservation of territorial integrity of the country.
3. To assist Filipinos in fully comprehending the significance of the basic principles of Greater East Asia so that they may fulfill their obligations and enjoy rights as members.

Rizal Youth Created

It was pointed out that since the nature of the Kalibapi has been changed from that of a purely civic association into a political organization and its membership limited to adults not less than 21 years of age, the President simultaneously created a national brotherhood composed of Filipino youths from six to 21 years of age called the "Kabtaang Pangatap Ni Rizal" (Rizal Youth).

All women members of the Kalibapi will be organized into an auxiliary chapter known as "Molchora Aquini Sisterhood," named after the historical woman by that name, while female members of Rizal Youth are to be constituted into the "Maria Clara Sisterhood," named after the famous fiction character created by Dr. Jose Rizal to symbolize the ideal Filipina.

The aim of the Kabtaan Pangatap Ni Rizal, which henceforth will be known as "Kapariz" is "to insure a stable foundation for the Republic by inculcating in youths of the land virtues which Rizal exemplified, such as honesty, industry, truthfulness, charity, simplicity, frugality, courtesy, neighborliness, self-reliance, loyalty, self-sacrifice, bravery and discipline." This youth group replaces the Junior Kalibapi which was abolished as a result of the revamping of the Kalibapi.

New Setup Described

The revised charter of the Kalibapi abolishes the former Bureau of Research and Planning as well as the Office of the Secretary and Treasurer and creates the new Bureau of Publicity. The new administrative setup includes the President (to be held by the President of the Republic in ex-officio capacity), Vice-President and Director-General, Assistant Director-General of the Advisory Board, executive staff directors of the Bureau of General Affairs, Bureau of Publicity, local branches of the three directors-at-large for Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, and an auditor.

On the other hand, the administration of the Kapariz will be placed in the hands of the national chairman, who will be appointed by the President as well as by the Advisory Board with the following members, Rafael Corpus as chairman of Justice, Antonio Borillero, Pedro Annario, Mrs. Francisca Benitez and Mrs. Flora Ylagan as members.

Although the Kalibaji will retain the present emblem of the red sun in a white rectangular background, the Kapariz will be provided with an insignia, circular in form and bearing the emblem of Rizal in the center with three stars above in the form of a triangle. The phrase "Kabtaang Pangatap Ni Rizal" will be inscribed below.

JOURNALS STRESS SEVERITY OF WAR

Crude Strategy of Enemy Will Lead Him to Doom In Pacific War Zone

The increasing severity of the war situation in the Central Pacific area as shown by the enemy's landing on the Hollandia area in New Guinea was stressed by the majority of the principal newspapers in Tokyo in their editorial comments during the week ending May 4. Other important topics of comment were: the Japan-Manchoukuo customs union, the problem of the second front, the war situation in China and the British Empire Conference.

After pointing out that the American Government had adjusted both the Nimitz fleet and the anti-Axis forces under the command of General MacArthur by disbanding the American southern Pacific fleet under the command of Admiral Halsey, the Asahi declares that the present strategy of the United States fleet in the Pacific is to threaten Japan's supply routes by undertaking a determined offensive in the Pacific war theater in concert with the operations of Mountbatten's forces. This new plan indicates that the enemy fears the firm stand of the Imperial Forces at important points in the Pacific area, according to the paper. "As the enemy leaves their bases far behind them," the journal continues, "We shall be able to display our superior and more advantageous fighting power, and ultimate and complete victory is only a matter of time."

The Yomiuri-Hochi regards the enemy's landing operations on the Hollandia region as an attempt to undertake a scissors-like attack from both east and west on our bases in Madang and Wewak, and warns the people to be prepared for this large-scale offensive. The paper, at the same time, welcomes such a crude strategy, declaring that it will offer an excellent opportunity to the Imperial Navy and Army to crush the enemy. The Tokyo Shimbun also takes up the latest American offensive on New Guinea, which it believes is an indication of the enemy's proposed attack on Japan, and asks for greater war efforts on the part of the Japanese people in supplying the Imperial Forces with more war materials.

Vital War Zone

Stressing the importance of the war situation in China, the Asahi directs the readers' attention to the latest developments on the China front, saying that we should not be blinded by what is going on in the Pacific and Burma war zones. "Although the China front is still in the stage of preparation for the enemy's attacks on our mainland," the journal continues, "we can never minimize its importance as a war theater." The occupation of Chengchow by the Imperial Forces in the latest China operations is regarded by the Mainichi as much more significant than the seizure of a local point, for it will prepare the way for a vastly important military development in the future.

The exemption from customs duties of goods exchanged between Japan and Manchoukuo, which took effect beginning from May 1, is taken up by the Asahi which believes that the measure adopted was highly urgent in view of the necessity of speeding up the expansion of war power. The paper stresses the importance of "time" in the present stage of the current war and congratulates the authorities concerned for acting sagaciously and in due recognition of the vital time factor.

The Tokyo shimbun sees a stupendous importance in the new economic arrangement between Japan and Manchoukuo, which it believes should be extended to other members of Greater East Asia, particularly to China. "Although we cannot transpose our relations with Manchoukuo to China," the journal says, "inasmuch as Japan, Manchoukuo and China form the nucleus of the New Order in East Asia, it is clear that such a decisive economic measure as adopted for Japan and Manchoukuo promises a bright future for the entire East Asia."

Chance to Crush Foe

Turning to the situation in Europe, the Tokyo shimbun takes up the latest severe bombing of German territory by the anti-Axis planes, presumably as a prelude to the formation of the second front. The paper considers the air raids to be ineffective, just as they have been in the past several months, and opines that the second front undertaking will aggravate the position of the anti-Axis forces, because it will involve a stupendous cost and, moreover, will not prove successful in the end. Even supposing that the anti-Axis actually succeeded in making a landing, the enemy will prove a good prey to German counter-attacks, the paper declares.

The Tokyo shimbun points out the paradox between the much vaunted quantity of war materials produced in the United States and the miserable results gained by the Americans on all war fronts. "If there be anything that the United States contributed to the world in the current war," the paper declares, "it will be the lesson given by that nation concerning the tragic end of one who depends on the power of material quantity."

The Asahi takes up the British Empire Conference which was opened in London recently, the object of which is to promote greater cooperation of the Dominions and Colonies with their mother country. After dwelling on the British policies, the relations between Britain and the United States and the attitude of the members of the British Commonwealth since the outbreak of the present war, the journal doubts the possibility of adjusting such a policy of Empire consolidation with America's ambition for world hegemony. The paper also predicts that the promotion of nationalism among the Dominions and Colonies will inevitably give rise to their independent diplomatic policies, and thus they will tend to drift further and further from the mother country. The paper gives as examples the recent policies of Eire, Australia and New Zealand, by way of substantiating its assertion. The journal concludes by saying that the existing opposition between the Anglo-American nations will inevitably spell the total collapse of the British Empire.

NIPPON PARTY SET FOR MANCHOUKUO

Vice-Admiral Takuo Godo of Koa Sohombu to Head Asia Development Mission

Vice-Admiral Takuo Godo, a director of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association and concurrently a member of the Cooperative Council of the Koa Sohombu (Asia Development Headquarters), accompanied by Tomoyuki Minami, Koichi Mikoshiba and Hiroshi Takata of the Headquarters will head the Asia Development Mission leaving for Manchoukuo soon.

In accordance with the agreement reached at the conference of the Asia Development Associations in Japan, Manchoukuo and China, Japan sent Dr. Shumei Okawa to Central China sometime at the end of last year and simultaneously dispatched Admiral Sankichi Takahashi to North China. In January of this year, Chang Shih-yen visited Japan representing the Hsinminhui in North China and in March, Huang Fu-chun, Manchoukuo Minister of the Agriculture Development, was sent to Japan representing the Concordia Society.

The dispatch of Vice-Admiral Godo, who was formerly a member of the board of trustees of the South Manchuria Railway Company and also the first president of the Showa Steel Works, will further consolidate the relations between Japan and Manchoukuo.

Vice-Admiral Godo and his suite will stay in Manchoukuo for two weeks from May 9 and in cooperation with the Concordia Society will lecture in Hsinking, Mukden and Harbin and also inspect various places.

THE NAVY

By TOYOO IWATA
(Translated by Kumiko Takagi)

PART VIII: WIND AND WAVES

It was only on the day of his arrival at his town that Masato dressed himself in the white uniform and dirk, and only when he paid a visit to the graveyard of Togo, Yawata Shrine and his ancestors' graves.

"Why didn't you come in your uniform?"

This was the complaint of his sisters or his uncles, whenever he called on them, but he only smiled.

As a matter of fact he could not answer; he only felt somewhat bashful. If there was some hesitation in his attitude, it was for his friends of the "Gunjingumi." "Preparatory Class for the Armed Services" who had failed in the examination of the Naval College last year. They were still in the fifth year class of the Second Middle School.

"You have changed, getting plump and sun-burnt."

When Masato called on Mr. Ogata, Masato donned the uniform of the Middle School and put on a straw hat. Mr. Ogata did not notice Masato's attire. He, too, was wearing a "Shirosatsuma" and was drinking "Shochu" (a kind of alcohol) as it was during the vacation.

Only Takao did not consent to it. "Show me your uniform!"

He earnestly begged, coming up to Masato's stuffy study-room in the attic. He unsheathed the dirk and gazed at the shoulder-straps with the design of the anchor on it, just as Masato did on the first day when he entered the College. Finally Takao persisted on wearing the uniform once.

"It suits you very well. You look like a naval surgeon with your glasses."

Though Masato bantered Takao in the uniform, Takao with a serious look, said, "If this cap has two white stripes, that's a . . ."

The cap with two lines is that of the Naval Paymasters' School, and the medical examination of that school was to come within a week. Masato, though smiling, could not help remembering those days last year.

Takao, after taking off the uniform, said, "Wherever I see the naval uniform, I recall that naval officer."

"Who?"

"That officer who made a speech when we visited Etajima."

"Oh, that officer, I remember him very well."

Masato did not forget him either. The story of which he told them had penetrated deeply into his mind. When he went to the College, he tried to find him, but as this college changes its instructors often, he could not locate him. So Masato told Takao.

"Oh, I see. They leave the college at Etajima before they lose the salt flavor about themselves."

Takao nodded as if he was deeply struck with this remark.

The upper-class cadets used to say that when they went back home they were embarrassed with much leisure time. It was true. Every minute was utilized at Etajima.

"I'll deliver rice, Mother," Masato suggested one day.

"No, you need not do such a thing."

"When you come home during the holidays, you must rest your mind," Yonokichi, too, said.

But Masato insisted upon doing something. Wearing a white sport-shirt and trousers he began to work.

"Well, then, do as you please."

Masato started delivering rice, loading three bags of it on a bicycle. With childish expression on his face and in plain clothes, he was just like a shop-boy. At some home, however, he was noticed.

"Oh, aren't you Masato? Why are you working?"

Masato only smiled, because he had nothing to say.

When he was on his way home riding the bicycle, someone called him and he stopped. It was Komori, now a student of the Military Academy, who was back home from school too. When Masato was told by Komori that the medical examination of the Naval College was to begin day after tomorrow, he immediately thought of Takao. He could not help praying for his success this time. After bidding good-bye to Komori, Masato made up his mind to call on Takao, although he hated to meet Eda. He still remembered those words she said when he left the Kagoshima Station four months ago.

During his stay at Etajima, he had never thought of her, but looking at the graceful form of Mt. Sakurajima under this deep blue sky at Kagoshima, her image again revived in his heart.

"What a strange girl she is!"

When Masato entered Takao's room, she was also there, but as she realized the visitor to be Masato, she promptly stood up, and left without any greetings. Her look this time was just like a mask of "Noh play" which was cooled by ice—if we could do such a thing. She straightened her face so suddenly that even Takao was dumbfounded and only looked back at her, agasp.

Once she had teased Masato, saying, "You, coward!", more than once she had said spiteful things; but now she became absolutely silent and straightened herself like the idol of Buddha in Nara. Masato could not understand this queer action of hers.

At last the day of the medical examinations of the Naval College of that year arrived. That day Masato was so busy delivering rice that he had no chance to meet Takao. Besides, there was no way to encourage him as it was the medical examination.

Of course he was anxious about the result, but Takao had passed the first day's examination, the optical test. As a matter of fact this optical examination was the most difficult for Takao. However, now that Takao had passed it safely, the second examination of his constitution would probably be safe. Indeed, Takao, looked very happy last night. Really, Takao was always superior to Masato in the school records. Thus, Masato thought and felt rather at ease. Masato was helping his mother at home and also waiting for Takao who would call on him with a cry of joy "I've passed this time." After work when Masato was taking a cold shower, Sister Kita came and said:

"Masato, some of your friends are here."

Masato thinking that it was Takao, dashed toward the shop.

"Masato, we've passed safely."

Several friends of his were standing there.

"Oh, congratulations!"

"But, we have still greater examinations to struggle through in December. Let's hear your congratulations after that."

Those little heroes laughed to their hearts' content, but Masato found that Takao was not among them.

"What's the matter with Mutaguchi?"

They stopped laughing at once.

"Oh, poor fellow! There's something wrong with his respiratory system, so we've heard."

They answered painfully. Masato felt as if he was suddenly drenched with cold water. Though he was sorry for those happy boys, he bade them farewell at once and went to call on Takao.

As usual he went to Takao's room through the back gate and called out in a low but strong voice.

"Takao!" But no answer came. When he called him again, Eda's face appeared through the window.

"He doesn't want to meet anybody!"

The summer vacation of the Naval College was short and soon Masato had to prepare for his return trip to the college.

Now he had no worry about home because the foundation stone of his household was made more and more firm by the efforts of his mother and elder brother, Yonokichi. The heavy burden weighing on his mind was only about his bosom friend, Takao.

During his stay at home he called on Mutaguchi many times, but he could get no chance to meet Takao. When Takao's mother appeared once with tears in his eyes he had no words to console her.

"Oh, he has just lost his mind; he never speaks to anyone and never wants to eat. I don't know what to do with him! What shall I do?"

Masato could not blame Takao. Since his childhood Takao had dreamed of becoming a naval officer. He failed in the "Arm-course" of the Naval College last year and yet he tried to catch the last straw, the Naval Paymasters' School. And now he was refused even this last hope; it was quite reasonable that he should act like this. Why was fate so cruel to Takao alone? He was the first boy to aspire for naval service, wasn't he? "I, who was supposed to have become a bank-clerk have now become a naval officer, but Takao who longed to enter the 'Navy' failed and was thrown into the bottom of despair—how unfortunate he is!"

Masato was sorry for him and tears filled his eyes. It was quite a happy thought to think of going back to Etajima and to begin again the life of a sailor, but when he thought of Takao, he felt as if his heart were left behind.

The day of departure came at last. After paying visits to the Togo grave-yard and Nanshu Shrine—the shrine dedicated to the Great Saigo Takamori—he called on Takao's father at the municipal office, since Takao persistently avoided him.

"Thank you so much. He seems to be a little better now."

Masato was much relieved to hear these words from Takao's father who said that Takao wanted to go to Kirishima Hot Springs.

"Well, it may be just a temporary shock, so in a month or so, the rest will restore his vitality again."

Though Masato did not believe Takao would regain his former self so soon, he prayed that the air of Mt. Kirishima and the peaceful life might give him a chance to recover and renew his hope.

"I never expected the pneumonia which he had suffered from when only a child could inflict this calamity on him," Takao's father said when he saw Masato off.

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TOKYO, MONDAY, MAY 8, 1944

The British Empire Conference

The fact that the British Empire Conference of Dominion Prime Ministers now in session has to be called in the very midst of the war is a clear indication of the critical character of the misunderstandings which exist between the dominions and their mother country regarding general Empire policy. Enough has been said or prudently left unsaid by the Dominion Prime Ministers during the past few months to reveal that, whatever may be the achievements of this meeting, the deep undercurrent of friction among the various members of the British Commonwealth of Nations will not be easily removed but will continue to jar effective collaboration within the Empire system even in the future.

While no official announcement has been made concerning the agenda of the Empire Conference, the Reuter report on the day of the opening of this conclave at London on May 1 stated that "the future policy of the countries of the British Commonwealth over a wide variety of topics" will be among the principal subjects to be submitted for the approval of the Dominion Prime Ministers. The discussion of the military situation in Europe and Asia which has occupied the first few days of the meeting is another. But the question which is of paramount importance to the British Government and the dominions and which must, of necessity, engage the attention of the conferees is apparently the re-examination of Empire defense and foreign policy in the light of the revolutionary international developments since the outbreak of the present world war.

One phase of this paramount question is the relation of Britain vis-a-vis the United States and the Soviet Union. Britain realizes today that she is practically powerless before the towering Colossus of the American Continents and the "new Colossus" of Europe and that, no matter how the war ends, she will emerge from it so weakened that she can never play a predominant role in world politics as in the years preceding 1939. The most pressing question facing Britain, therefore, is how she may augment her inadequate strength. Two formulas have been suggested as remedies: (1) the incorporation of the smaller "democracies" of Western Europe under Britain's protective wings and (2) greater intra-Empire cooperation through the subordination by the dominions of their special interests for the sake of a stronger, unified Empire. To win the Dominions' wholehearted endorsement of these formulas will apparently be the aim of the British Government; and to increase their freedom in the conduct of their foreign affairs and yet not weaken the international position of their mother country whose support they will still need in the future is apparently the aim of the major dominions.

The discussion of such a fundamental policy cannot but be accompanied by heated clashes of views. Prime Minister William MacKenzie King of Canada, for instance, has quite openly refused to subscribe to the principle of closer intra-Empire cooperation at the sacrifice of Canadian interests. The conclusion of the agreement for joint defense and foreign policy between Prime Minister John Curtin of Australia and Prime Minister Peter Frazer of New Zealand in January of this year points a finger straight at the tendency among the dominions toward decentralization rather than centralization. The Canberra-Auckland agreement, which Curtin stated will be submitted to the Empire Conference, suggests that these two Pacific dominions are in favor of dividing the British Commonwealth into regional blocs, with the Dominions and colonies in specified geographical areas combining for the purpose of joint defense and diplomatic action. A strong popular movement supporting this tendency is afoot in Australia. Only a few days ago the entire Australian press demanded that Canberra be given a free hand to extend her foreign relations in the East Asia area. This demand was bluntly justified by the Sydney Daily Telegraph on the ground that as Britain's help to her dominions during the present war has been far from satisfactory, she could no longer claim the right to impose her decisions on the Dominions. These are unmistakable symptoms of unavoidable discord and antagonism which the British Government will find difficult to modulate.

Another factor which will bar closer collaboration between the British Dominions and their mother country and produce jarring notes in any of the discussions that may be taken up at the present imperial conference is their conflicting economic problems. The geographical position of Canada, for instance, makes her economy closely dependent on the United States rather than on Britain and makes her averse to any economic program favoring imperial preference. The rise of new industries in the several Dominions of the British Commonwealth, their expanding credit balances at London, and the liquidation of the major part of their outstanding debts to their mother country place the dominions in a position where their commercial and industrial plans must inevitably come into conflict with those of the mother country. Not only that, the Dominions are now so confident of themselves that Canada, Australia and New Zealand have openly expressed their intention to enter the international race for the establishment of a world-wide civilian airline service.

The difficulties in attaining closer Empire team-work will, from all indications, continue to increase rather than diminish. The Dominions, for instance, will in the future have to devise independent measures for their own security in the absence of a powerful British fleet. They can no longer depend on their mother country to defend their commerce on the high seas in time of peace and to provide military protection to them in time of war. Such a consideration will naturally force the dominions to seek strength by alliances among themselves or force them to enter into military as well as economic agreements with nations outside of the British Empire. The growing feeling of nationalism within the dominions is another important deterrent to greater intra-Empire cooperation; economic sectionalism is still another. Taken together, all these factors will form a serious barrier to the attainment of imperial unity at the present Empire Conference—unity which is absolutely essential to Britain if she is to count as a dominant force in power politics today and tomorrow.

Indian Lyrics

Pluck this little flower and take it, delay not! I fear lest it droop and drop into the dust. It may not find a place in thy garland, but honor it with a touch of pain from thy hand and pluck it. I fear lest the day end before I am aware, and the time of offering go by. Though its color be not deep and its smell be faint, use this flower in thy service and pluck it while there is time.—From Gitanjali and Fruit-Gathering by Rabindranath Tagore.

* * *

Alas, I cannot stay in the house, and home has become no home to me, for the eternal Stranger calls, he is going along the road. The sound of his footfall knocks at my breast; it pains me! The wind is up, the sea is moaning. I leave all my cares and doubts to follow the homeless tide, for the Stranger calls me, he is going along the road.—From Gitanjali and Fruit-Gathering by Rabindranath Tagore.

A Year Ago Today

May 8, 1943

An Independence Preparatory Committee to decide on the independence of Burma was organized at Rangoon, capital of Burma, today. Prime Minister Ba Maw of Burma is chairman of the Committee with 21 others as its members.

* * *

The foodstuff problem in West Asia is assuming serious proportions. Due to the requisitioning of foodstuffs by the Anglo-American forces following their entry into West Asia, the inhabitants there are experiencing a food famine and the inflation of currency has been greatly intensified, thus frequently leading to riots among them.

* * *

Imperial Japanese Forces penetrated Shehsien, stronghold of the 129th Chungking division, early this morning and completely occupied the city at noon in cooperation with Japanese Forces that had entered from the north.

* * *

Following the capture of Ishantang, a Japanese Unit on the left wing, pressing hard upon the enemy's 15th Division, took complete possession of Nanhsien, the base for the enemy's 73rd Army in Hunan Province.

* * *

The Bank of Japan has arranged to give credit to the Bank of Mengchiang to the amount of Yen 100,000,000. A contract to this effect was signed today between Toyotaro Yuki, governor of the Bank of Japan, and Hisayoshi Munakata, president of the Bank of Mengchiang, at the head office of the Japanese central bank.

* * *

A total of 143 enemy planes were shot down or destroyed while 17 ships were sunk or damaged by the Japanese Army Air Force operating in Burma during the month of April, it was announced by the Imperial Expeditionary Forces in Burma today.

* * *

The Japanese Forces have occupied a position along the Maungdaw-Buthidaung highway, four miles west of Buthidaung to the east of the Mayu Mountains. Moreover, the Imperial Forces have succeeded in reinforcing their advanced troops, thus creating a direct menace to the Buthidaung area.

War and Diplomacy

Study of Diplomatic Methods Employed in First World Conflict Provides Profitable Examples

By SHIGEO KOMATSU
(From the Gaiko Jiho)

The former World War was a conflict of unprecedented magnitude, and we can profit by a study of the kind of diplomacy developed by each belligerent country in the conduct of the war. It will not be out of place, therefore, to review what lines of diplomacy were pursued by belligerents in that conflict, what methods were adopted to carry them out and what advantages or disadvantages accrued from them to different belligerents.

Germany and Austria being nations of the same script and race, one might think that their collaboration in the conduct of the war left nothing to be desired, but such was not necessarily the case.

Germany refused to take Austria into confidence in laying down strategic plans. Nor did Austria seek Germany's advice or guidance in formulating her plans of operation. This lack of confidence gave rise to constant discord between these allies.

In February, 1916, the Chiefs of General Staff of Germany and Austria dined together at the German headquarters. Neither was in a communicative mood and there prevailed an atmosphere which was anything but cheerful or cordial. At the end of the dinner, the German Chief of General Staff curtly bade adieu to the Austrian Chief of General Staff, saying that he was going west. "Whither in the west?", queried the latter. "To Verdun" was the brief reply. Th Austrian Chief of General Staff, pursuing his inquiry, asked when the attack on Verdun was going to be launched. "It may begin a few days hence or it may take place in a few hours," replied the German Chief of General Staff to the disgruntled Austrian officer. Indignant at the non-confiding attitude of the German High Command, the Austrian military authorities started an attack on Italy without previous consultation with the German military leaders. The result of this Austrian attack was disappointing, and the Austrians were obliged to pocket their pride and seek German aid. Germany's general attack on Verdun was no more a success than Austria's attack on Italy. Divided command naturally diminishes fighting power considerably. The none too concerted action of the German and Austrian high commands was not, of course, calculated to promote victory.

Allied Camp Discordant

Far more discordant than this were the counsels in the allied camp of France, Belgium, Britain and America. From her nearness to the theater of war and other circumstances, it appeared just and proper that France should form the directing force of the Allies. Seeing, however, that it was at her own humble request that Britain and America entered the war, France was not in a position to force her command on these countries. Nor could France even dictate to Belgium. Belgium, a small country, possessed an army of only six divisions strong. Small as was her army, however, it was under the supreme command of her King, and it was difficult for a French Chief of General Staff to issue orders to the King of the Belgians. Each time the day went against them, discord developed in the ranks of the Allied forces. Particularly obnoxious was the general behavior of the Americans. The American troops were vain enough to fancy themselves the backbone of the Allied force, though they always cut the poorest figure in actual fighting. Moreover, they suffered frequent defeats on account of their disobedience to their French commanders. The Allied record of fighting was their record of discord. It was not until May, 1918, that the Allied command was unified and the French, British, Belgian and Italian forces from the North Sea in the north to the Adriatic Sea in the south were put under the orders of Marshal Foch. This arangement did not come by easily. It was brought about as the sequel to the bitter experiences of the failure of the Italian force in October of the preceding year and the failure of the British force in March and April of the same year.

Germany's mind reverted to peace for the first time when she, after the failure in the battle of Marne, realized that the war was taking on aspects of a protracted struggle. General Falkenhayn, Chief of the German General Staff, the originator of this peace idea, was of the opinion that it was better for Germany to sheathe the sword and bide its time than to carry on the war which showed no sign of an early termination. His idea was discountenanced by Bethmann-Hollweg, the German Chancellor. The next peace move was attempted in July, 1915, when the German operations against Russia resulted in a great success. Germany proposed peace on condition that the Eastern border be left intact, but Russia rejected the offer, because the Russian Government was then aware of Italy's approaching participation in the war and also because it had no doubt of a final Allied victory. Once again, at the end of 1916, Germany, finding her national resources to be diminishing considerably, proposed peace to the Allies, her conditions being, inter alia, the revision of the border line in Alsace-Lorraine, the safeguarding of Belgium's security and the payment of an indemnity to Germany by the Allies. This German proposal met with another rebuff. The peace terms set forth by Germany in these proposals were such as the victor alone could dictate.

Despite these failures, there were frequent discussions of peace in Germany subsequently. For instance, Dr. Kuhlmann spoke in favor of peace in the Reichstag. Liebknecht, a Socialist, also advocated peace in public utterances. What influenced the German Government most was, however, the famous fourteen points of President Wilson, that is, the peace offer based on non-indemnity and non-annexation. This offer made a strong appeal to the German people who had become war-weary. The German leaders, eager for an honorable peace, jumped at it and applied to President Wilson for his good offices. The President told the German people to depose the military despots who were at the helm of the State, and the latter, in compliance, dethroned the Kaiser and drove Ludendorff from office. Woodrow Wilson then insisted on Germany's cessation of all warlike action, and the German people, without questioning his sincerity, suspended fighting. And then, very harsh terms of armistice were sprung upon the bewildered German people, who realized only too late that they had been taken in by crafty Wilson. The Peace Treaty deprived Germany of all her armaments, her colonial possessions and a portion of her territory and resources, and caused the crash of the German monarchy. This wretched fate of Germany was the occasion for the rise to power of Adolf Hitler. That is also why the entire German nation is now fighting desperately.

New World Arises

After a great war we invariably find a new world arising. Then, all countries must formulate a new line of foreign policy in order to cope with the new world situation. Blind adherence on the part of any country to the policy shaped and pursued before and during the war may cause the stoppage of its progress or even its ruin. France is a case in point.

Half a century ago, France was beaten completely by Germany in the Franco-Prussian War. This defeat left so indelible an impression on the French people that the subsequent French diplomacy aimed invariably and mainly at reprisals and repression against Germany. Her diplomacy both before and during the former European War was motivated by the desire to make common cause with Britain against Germany. Her relations with Britain underwent a big change after the war, however. Britain made a point of opposing the various plans initiated by France after the Armistice was signed. M. Clemenceau, the French Premier, complained bitterly to Lloyd George, the British Prime Minister, of Britain's attitude of indifference toward the proposals of her own ally. This complaint was scornfully waved aside by the latter who said that his country was simply following her traditional policy. Britain could not tolerate the rise of a strong Power in Europe, he declared, adding that now that Germany had ceased to be a menace, Britain's attention must be directed to the prevention of a great accretion of strength on the part of France.

A wise course for the French leaders to take at that juncture was probably to turn over a new leaf and consider seriously a compromise with Germany. They ought to have had recourse to the policy of friendly collaboration with Germany. Had they shaped their course in this way and shown a disposition to ensure for Germany her colonies and other interests abroad, it might have had the effect of greatly influencing British policy toward France. They acted otherwise, however. They remained wedded to the old policy of badgering Germany, in sole reliance on Britain. This blind adherence to her old ways proved ruinous to her. More absurd still was the policy she adopted toward the new independent States of Poland, Czechoslovakia and Jugoslavia of allying herself with them, lending money to them and concluding military agreements with them in pursuit of her policy of encircling Germany. It was due to the lack of principle and foresight on the part of French statesmen that France was trampled upon by German tanks and was easily brought under German control within several weeks after the outbreak of the war.

CURRENCY AND DANGER OF INFLATION

Regulation of Specie Is Vital Requisite

By SHOICHI SUMIDA
(From the Diamond)

For the successful prosecution of the war, financially there are three absolute requisites, namely the flotation of bonds, increased taxation and increased production. These factors are all equally important but harmonious function of the combination of the three should be the keynote of wartime economy.

However, before this is attained, it is necessary that the amount of currency in the country be properly regulated. If the quantity of currency is irrational it automatically leads to the fluctuation of rates of interest and impedes the normal absorption of war bonds, which in turn threatens increased production, dampens the peoples' tax-bearing power and hinders the smooth economic function of the state.

At this juncture the reader may justly ask what should determine the quantity of currency outstanding. In connection with this question, many economists in the past have offered various theories, but I believe that since the state is the greatest spender it is most rational that the standard for the quantity of currency be based on the national budget, for it is patent that the national budget is the strongest determining factor of the quantity of currency.

It is recalled that Japan's finance had undergone a rapid expansion since the Manchurian Incident and the quantity of currency within the past few years has seen considerable increase. In view of the extraordinary large war budget, however, the present amount of currency is by no means a large one, but comparatively too small. Irrespective of this fact, the impression is strong among some people that the national currency is presently expanding beyond its bounds and that some means must be sought to contract it. These people are led to believe that an increase in currency will immediately provoke injurious inflation.

This fear may be justified if the expansion of currency is carried out indiscriminately and without careful regulation, but this should not be the case. Currency must be increased rationally and within studied limits.

No doubt the general public interprets expansion of currency immediately as injurious inflation due to the past recollection of the catastrophic fall of the German mark following the end of the last World War. But this phenomenon was not caused by the expansion of currency but by other special peculiar reasons of political nature.

A state of inflation is essentially not caused by the currency as such, but from the prices of goods; for currency does not govern prices, but vice-versa. Practically speaking, for instance, foreign goods and others usually unavailable such as imported whisky, today are free to command any exorbitant prices. Hence, it is that element of being rare that sets the price and not the amount of the currency. Therefore a counter-measure to check the rise in prices is essentially a political problem and not an economic one. It should be attacked by measures such as the tightening of the laws or the enhancement of moral consciousness. At any rate, the problem has no direct bearing on currency.

A persistent opponent of increased currency claims that prices are directly influenced by the amount of currency, but he is as a rule prejudiced by the common misconception that "prices rise as currency increases." Moreover he is convinced that this theory is the iron rule of economics.

Upon close scrutiny, however, we discover that the rise in price of food or clothing, will greatly inconvenience us, but the prices of these commodities are not directly maintained by the quantity of currency. The rise or fall of the prices of rice and salt or clothing is determined by the supply and demand of the goods concerned.

Even this possibility, however, is eliminated today by the placing of fixed prices on these goods. The student must view the price problem from another angle. At any rate it is a fact that prices are not directly influenced by the amount of currency.

The prices of securities and real estate and the like, however, are directly influenced by the increase in currency. But these can be disregarded as any changes in its prices will not greatly inconvenience us.

It is true that the amount of currency has immediate bearing on production and finance; and its relations immediately influence increased production or bond absorption as well as the tax burden. As such, we must carefully study whether the present amount of currency is rationally maintained.

It is recalled that the theory on currency was heretofore based on the premise of capitalism advanced by Britain and the United States. However, in the present era with the advent of controlled and planned economy the necessity arises to discard the old time-worn theory and adopt another standard by which to study currency.

The Mediterranean Situation

Consternation in Anglo-American Camp Evident as Kremlin Influence Expands Through Dardanelles

By JUNRO HISAKITA
(From the Sekai Shuho)

The expansion and enlargement of Soviet power in Europe has become very conspicuous in recent months, constructing the ground work for future activities in East Europe, the Balkans and the Mediterranean basin.

In the first part of March, President Roosevelt announced that the Italian fleet would be divided among the three leading nations of the anti-Axis group, namely, Britain, America and the Soviet Union. Though it was generally anticipated that the surrendered Italian fleet would be put into the Anglo-American navies, they seem to have found it inevitable to give part of it to the Soviet Union, clearly indicating that they have actually permitted the Soviets to advance into the Mediterranean Sea.

And, while the question of this split of the Italian fleet was being actively discussed in many quarters, the Moscow Government recognized the Italian Badoglio regime ahead of the Anglo-Americans. There is no doubt that this quick Soviet action took place with an eye on the future.

The far-reaching effects of the recognition is indicated by the wide speculations in the Anglo-American press reports and their expression of suspicion and doubt regarding the Soviet motive. The London Times substantially commented on this matter as follows:

"The recent step taken by the Soviet Government cannot be said to be proper. Before recognizing the Badoglio regime, the Kremlin made no arrangement with the Anglo-American side or even with the anti-Axis Mediterranean Committee. One must say that the Soviet action is totally abnormal and is absolutely opposed to the British policy. It is an unusual precedent which is pregnant with grave future consequences. At the same time it demonstrated before the whole world that the anti-Axis side has no unified policy."

Rivalry Historical

Bordered by western Asia to the east, the African continent to the south, the Balkans to the north and the Atlantic Ocean to the west, the Mediterranean Sea has been an important body of water for ages, especially during the past two hundred years during which it witnessed a keen international rivalry. After the construction of the Suez Canal, which connected it with the Indian Ocean, its political, military and economic significance became greatly enlarged.

It was Britain that came to hold hegemony in this historic struggle for supremacy in the Mediterranean basin. The role of this sea as the Empire route uniting the home country with India and Asiatic colonies has been a matter of greatest concern. Moreover, domination there was also an absolute necessity for her expansion in the direction of western Asia and Africa. For this purpose, Britain never hesitated to employ all conceivable imperialistic means, resorting even to piratical activities.

On the other hand, Czarist Russia which had been confined in the cold northern continent, always sought "a warm southern gate or window." She was especially desirous of finding an outlet to the south by way of the Black Sea, the Dardanelles and Bosphorus straits but her repeated attempts to secure possession of these straits failed. In the middle of the 18th century, during the reign of Queen Catharine, Russia fought against Turkey and succeeded in gaining the right of passing through the Dardanelles. But, it was Britain which entertained the greatest fear for this southward advance and acted in concert with other countries to enforce an international control of the right of passage or to prevent the navigation of the Russian merchant ships in the Mediterranean. For to prevent the advance of Russian power into the Mediterranean Sea has been Britain's consistent policy.

Because of the vigorous opposition of Britain, Czarist Russia collapsed without realizing her dream of southward advance. Then Italy replaced Russia as the enemy of Britain in the Mediterranean. The British-Italian rivalry finally had to be decided by force when Italy joined the present world war in June, 1940 as one of the Axis nations. At the same time, Britain also kept a watchful eye on every movement of the Soviet Union which replaced the Czarist regime.

For a while British power in this region was in a precarious position due to the combined war efforts of Germany and Italy and with the assistance of the United States barely held out. And in return for this American assistance, Britain had to accord tacit recognition to American capitalistic advance in western Asia, and the North African coast such as Algiers and Morocco. Then in May last year the German and Italian forces withdrew from the North African front. Britain breathed a sigh of relief only to be alarmed anew by the sudden visit of "a northern friend" to the Mediterranean.

Opportunity Seized

It was the problem of the French puppet regime of renegade French generals such as De Gaulle and Giraud that provided the opportunity for the first step by the Soviet Union in its advance into the Mediterranean Sea. While Britain supported the French faction headed by General Charles De Gaulle, the United States backed up General Giraud. An ugly feud was continued for some time until by August, 1943 when an organization called "The Committee for the Liberation of France" was formed. Neither America nor Britain was quite satisfied with the organization and personnel of this committee and both made many demands with regard to the committee. Then the Soviet Union gave an unconditional recognition to the Committee, while that of the Anglo-Americans was conditional or piece-meal.

Thus, the way for Soviet advance into the Mediterranean was opened. Many Soviet officials headed by Envoy Bogomorof arrived at Algiers where the French puppet regime had its headquarters. In November, last year, Vice-Foreign Commissar A. J. Vishinsky also arrived in the same city as Soviet envoy to the anti-Axis council for deliberating on Italian problems. Thus, a rise of communistic power was seen in the French colonies with Algiers as the center.

At about the same time diplomatic relations were established between the Soviet Union and Egypt, and Envoy Ovikoff was sent to Cairo where a department of information was opened in the Soviet Legation. Here, too, the extension of Soviet power was commenced. Latest reports disclose that in Cairo alone some 300 Soviet diplomatic officials are stationed. The nature of their work is not hard to imagine. All these positive diplomatic measures adopted and carried out by the Kremlin authorities have grown into the problems of recognition of the Badoglio regime and the disposal of the Italian fleet. Reports emanating from Anglo-American sources have stated that Premier Josef Stalin demanded the partial delivery of the Italian fleet to the Soviet Union during the Teheran Conference last November. If this be true, it certainly betrays the vigorous Mediterranean policy of the Soviet Union.

Strategy Successful

As to the Badoglio regime, the Soviet journal "War and the Working Class" toward the close of last year vehemently criticized the Italian puppet regime for retaining a fascistic tinge, but only shortly afterward the Moscow Government abruptly accorded recognition to it. It may be said that the same was aimed at by Moscow in this case as in the former case of the French puppet regime. The situation in South Italy greatly resembled that which prevailed in North Africa; like the strife between the two French factions of De Gaulle and Giraud, in South Italy there existed several factions which were opposed to the Badoglio regime, each striving to secure political power. It appears that Moscow wished to secure the confidence of the Badoglio regime by according recognition to it. Such a method had already been tried out in Algiers and been successful.

But this is only the overture of the Soviet advance in the Mediterranean area. The Anglo-Americans still owe to her the debt of the promise of a second front. The Kremlin is fully aware of the fact that before it is undertaken, they will not be able to react to such active diplomacy on the part of the Soviets. So the Moscow Government will make further advance while the Anglo-Americans hesitate to pay their debt. Moreover, the present hope of the Soviet Government in the Mediterranean Sea has a historical counterpart with the southward advance policy of Czarist Russia.

Before the irresistible advance of the Soviet Union, the Anglo-Americans are awe-stricken and dismayed but inasmuch as they must wage war against Germany, it is realized that close cooperation must be realized with Moscow. The Mediterranean is Britain's lifeline and America's newly explored region for imperialistic ambitions, so that they will continue their divergent measures in order to maintain their power in the area. But the Soviet Union fully knows the usual methods of Anglo-Saxon plutocracy, and will not be cheated out by them.